2020 Class of Boettcher Investigators includes five University of Colorado researchers[1]
[2]

The Boettcher Foundation has announced its 2020 class of Boettcher Investigators, including five University of Colorado biomedical researchers.

The $1.88 million in awards from the foundation's Webb-Waring Biomedical Research Awards program support promising, early career scientific researchers, allowing them to establish their independent research and make it competitive for major federal and private awards.

Recipients each are awarded $235,000 in grant funding to sustain up to three years of biomedical research.

This year's class, the 11th, brings the total number of CU-based Boettcher Investigators[3] to 49, representing research awards of $11.4 million.

The 2020 Class of Boettcher Investigators and their research topics are:

University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus
Petter Bjornstad, M.D., Assistant Professor of Pediatrics and Medicine – Mechanisms underlying early diabetic kidney disease **Suet Nee Chen, Ph.D.,** Assistant Professor of Medicine, Cardiology Division – Molecular genetics and pathogenesis of inherited cardiomyopathies **Andra Lee Dingman, M.D.,** Department of Pediatrics, Division of Child Neurology – Chronic changes in brain plasticity after neonatal stroke **Sridharan Raghavan, M.D., Ph.D.**, Assistant Professor of Medicine – Understanding genetic and non-genetic contributors to diabetes risk
University of Colorado Boulder
Justin Brumbaugh, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Molecular, Cellular, and Developmental Biology – Post-transcriptional regulation and stem cell biology
This year's class of Boettcher Investigators also includes biomedical researchers from Colorado College, Colorado State University and National Jewish Health. Learn more here[4].

"This class of Boettcher Investigators are the example of Colorado's innovation in bioscience research that aims to improve our preparation, response, and deepen our knowledge of human health issues," said Katie Kramer, president and CEO of the Boettcher Foundation. "We are proud to support their expert work at this significant juncture in their research careers."

Including the class of 2020, 76 Boettcher Investigators have received funding through the Webb-Waring program. Since 2010, Boettcher Investigators have gone on to earn a collective $80 million in subsequent independent research funding. Ninety-five percent of award recipients remain at Colorado research institutions, advancing the foundation's mission of keeping Colorado's top scientific minds in the state.

"Colorado BioScience Association congratulates the 2020 Class of Boettcher Investigators," said Jennifer Jones Paton, president and CEO of the Colorado BioScience Association. "Boettcher Foundation and the Webb-Waring Biomedical Research Awards support our state's most promising scientific researchers. Our life sciences ecosystem applauds Boettcher Foundation's investments in early stage research and looks forward to collaborating with the newest Boettcher Investigators."

Friday's announcement of the Webb-Waring awards came one week after the foundation announced its grantees of nearly $1 million in biomedical research funding to fight COVID-19 and potential future pandemics. The awardees include two CU researchers[5].

The Boettcher Foundation has been a leading philanthropic supporter of biomedical research in Colorado dating back to the 1940s. For more information about the Webb-Waring Biomedical Research Awards, visit the Boettcher Foundation website[6].

[The importance of innovation for CU in the age of COVID-19 and beyond][7]

[CU names José Padilla vice president, general counsel and secretary to the Board of Regents][8]

[CU support of Denver PrideFest continues as event goes virtual][9]

[10]

The nature of next month's Denver PrideFest may be undergoing a necessary change, but in its fifth year of sponsorship, the University of Colorado's support of the annual event remains unwavering.

Ordinarily a two-day festival celebrating Colorado's LGBTQ+ community, [PrideFest's 2020 edition][11] will be a weekend of virtual events June 20-21. The shift is aimed at preventing the spread of coronavirus.

For Sunday's Virtual Pride Parade, "entrants" including CU will be represented via videos promoting messages of support, encouragement and community spirit.

The Denver Virtual Pride Parade will be livestreamed on [The Center on Colfax's Facebook page][12] at 9:30 a.m. June 21. The broadcast might also appear via other platforms, to be announced, and a recording will be available after the live broadcast.

Members of the CU community are invited to contribute material that may be used in CU's virtual parade float. Here are two ways to take part in the Pride celebration:

Photo Activity One
Identify an item or create one that shows your Pride (Pride flag, T-shirts, etc.) Find a space in your home or neighborhood that you feel allows you to be your authentic self. (Some of us may not be in or near such a space; instead, if you have a photo in your collection that highlights a space like somewhere on campus where you felt a sense of Pride, please feel free to use it.) Take your item and place it in that space and take a picture. (You can choose to be in the image or not, we'll follow your lead.) Tag CU in the picture or use the hashtag #CUatPride
Photo Activity Two
Create or buy decor that you think celebrates Pride. By yourself, or with others, decorate a space in your home. Take a picture and tag us in it or use the hashtag #CUatPride. (You can choose to be in the image or not.)
Post your photos and we might include them in our virtual parade video. Any photo posted by June 1 will be considered. Even if you miss the Monday deadline, please continue to post your photos as you celebrate Pride month.

Photo guidelines
Pride is a celebration that recognizes the history of the LGBTQ+ community and our future possibilities. We encourage everyone who participates to embrace and respect this. We ask that you ensure your pictures are full of fun and yet remain family-friendly as several of us would like to share our Pride with the future generation. CU reserves the right not to repost or ask for the removal of any image we are tagged in that is found to be promoting illegal activity and/or inappropriate or offensive activity.
Please note: Yard sign rules and regulations vary among cities and counties. Check your local guidelines.

Questions about the virtual parade? Email prideparade@lgbtqcolorado.org[13].

Furlough plans growing more detailed at system, campuses[14]

In response to the budget threats brought on by the coronavirus pandemic, furloughs were announced Friday for system administration employees, adding to those announced at the campuses.

In an email to staff, President Mark Kennedy said all system administration employees who earn more than $60,000 annually will take one furlough day per month – which equates to about a 5% cut – effective July 1 and continuing until further notice.

“We are all aware of the extremely challenging financial conditions COVID-19 brought about,” Kennedy wrote. “Personnel costs are more than 70 percent of our expenditures. As part of our early mitigation efforts, my leadership team at system administration joined me in taking a 10% pay cut through furloughs, as did the campus chancellors and their leadership teams. The campuses are making further cuts across their workforce, and it is appropriate that we join in this shared sacrifice and be seen as good partners.”

Higher education faced news both good and bad last week regarding funding. The federal CARES act allowed the governor to provide some $450 million in funding for higher education (CU’s share is $127 million). Also, Colorado higher education will take a one-time $493 million cut (58%) in state funding (CU’s share is $140 million).

“The federal relief funds will definitely provide help to campuses as they work to educate, retain and graduate students, but they do not replace the state cut, and there is strict guidance on how the funds must be used,” Kennedy wrote. “Additionally, we face considerable uncertainty about our other major revenue streams – fall enrollment, research funding and auxiliary revenue (from campus operations such as housing, dining, parking, etc.). At the same time, efforts to ensure the health of our communities and to deliver more content digitally will increase costs.”

Employee Services will send out more detail regarding how the furlough will be implemented.

The president acknowledged the difficulty of furloughs at a time when COVID-19 has caused increased workloads and stress.

“Yet I believe it will give us a better chance to sustain our operations in the long run and to avoid deeper cuts that would weaken our enterprise,” Kennedy wrote.

The four campuses continue to announce details on their plans for furloughs:

CU Boulder: Since April, the university has indicated that furloughs were likely. So far, 447 employees have been notified[15] about being continuously furloughed on or before June 1. These employees will retain their university benefits and be able to apply for unemployment benefits. The intention with these measures is to position the university to be able to bring furloughed employees back as soon as possible. Leadership including the chancellor, provost, chief operating officer, deans, vice chancellors, and associate vice chancellors will be taking two unpaid furlough days a month[16] beginning July 1 and continuing through the upcoming academic year.

UCCS: The campus will institute tiered, temporary furloughs[17]. All officers will take a 10 percent reduction in salary through furlough beginning July 1. General fund employees, or those funded through state appropriations and tuition, earning $60,000 or more per year will take a 4.6 percent reduction in salary, equivalent to one furloughed day per month, beginning July 1. Faculty earning $60,000 or more per year will take the same reduction in salary beginning Aug. 17, the first day of the academic year. In the present model, classified staff members are not subject to furloughs. These employees may be subject to furlough plans or other reductions implemented by the state or by the CU system. More information can be found on the Human Resources website[18].

CU Denver: Leaders have announced a tiered, progressive program of unpaid, temporary furloughs beginning July 1 and potentially running through June 30, 2021. Required furlough days[19] will range from none, for those earning

under $60,000 annually, to 26 days, for those earning $180,000 and above. The furlough plan will apply to most CU Denver employees: schools, colleges, academic and student affairs (ASA) staff, and CU Denver administration. All CU Denver cabinet, deans, and other officers will be furloughed at the highest level.

CU Anschutz: Some departments, schools and units have implemented furloughs and other cost-cutting measures to sustain their critical operations.

CU closely watching progress of SpaceX[20]
[21]

The sigh of disappointment Wednesday when weather delayed the historic launch of SpaceX from the Kennedy Space Center was never louder than at CU Boulder. NASA is looking to try again Saturday.

It's no surprise that the first peopled liftoff from the United States in nearly a decade had – and will continue to have – the rapt attention of researchers and leadership at the University of Colorado.

Since the late 1940s, the University of Colorado Boulder has sent important experiments and instruments to every planet in the solar system. In 52 space missions, NASA spacecraft have launched hundreds of instruments from CU Boulder as well as 20 CU scientists, faculty and alumni – including 18 from Boulder, one from UCCS and one from CU Anschutz.

Two of those missions ended in tragedy. Each January, NASA, the University of Colorado, institutions and individuals across the country honor the 17 astronauts who were killed, including CU alumni Ellison Onizuka (Challenger, 1986) and Kalpana Chawla (Columbia, 2003).

Through the Laboratory for Atmospheric and Space Physics and other schools and colleges, CU Boulder ranks in the top five U.S. universities, excluding military academies, in the number of astronaut alumni, and is the top NASA-funded university in the world. The importance of the university's role in space exploration is vast and growing.
[22]

"Despite the delay, this renewed reach for the stars is something to celebrate – particularly during our prolonged pandemic confinement – and it is also an imperative," said CU President Mark Kennedy. "As a nation, we must again devote ourselves to leadership in space."

When it at last launches, SpaceX, the first privately developed spacecraft, will blast in a new era of space exploration. The Demo 2 mission's astronauts, Bob Behnken and Doug Hurley, will test the craft's systems to ensure they meet NASA's requirements for certification to carry astronauts to the International Space Station (ISS) and back. After the Space Shuttle Program concluded in 2011, the U.S. paid Russia to shuttle U.S. astronauts to ISS and back.

"In Colorado, we have the nation's second-largest concentration of space activity – the highest per capita – and one of the country's strongest space economies," Kennedy said. "For the sake of our nation's prosperity and security, it is not enough to journey to the moon once again. We must commit to government, commercial and academic collaboration to retain a position of pre-eminence in space, in this decade and beyond."
[23]

The Crew Dragon spacecraft is nearly 27 feet tall and 13 feet around and can hold up to seven people. It was built through Elon Musk's company in a program called Commercial Crew. After launching, the spacecraft will take 19 hours to reach the ISS. NASA anticipates the astronauts will remain on ISS between 30 and 119 days. When the astronauts steer the craft back down to Earth, the mission will conclude with the craft splashing down in the Atlantic Ocean.

The SpaceX launch can be viewed through livestream here[24].

Resources
CU in Space[25]Kennedy Space Center launches and events[26]Kennedy Space Center SpaceX launch[27]

Rock Your Profile: How to stand out on LinkedIn[28]
[29]

Join LinkedIn and Employee Services June 15-16 for Rock Your Profile, an interactive learning experience that will give you tips and insights to make your LinkedIn profile stand out.

Led by a LinkedIn representative, each interactive session will help you get noticed with a robust LinkedIn profile, connect with professional and industry leaders, allow you to share your unique perspective with others and discover new opportunities. Whether you've never used LinkedIn before or want to get more out of it, you'll learn ways to successfully put your skills and expertise in the spotlight. You'll receive a setlist of best practices, tips and insights to help build an all-star LinkedIn profile.

Even if you are established in your career, a LinkedIn profile can amplify your expertise and enrich your professional development.

University of Colorado faculty and staff have unlimited access to LinkedIn Learning[30]. If you choose to connect your LinkedIn profile to CU's LinkedIn Learning, you'll receive customizable course recommendations based on your current skills and job title to enhance your skillset. Sessions will also cover LinkedIn Learning and LinkedIn privacy settings, giving you control of what activities you highlight.

Get a quick introduction to LinkedIn Learning by watching a webinar of CU's recent Learning Link-up.[31]

Register for an event
10-11 a.m. June 15 https://cusystem.zoom.us/j/92286952137[32] Noon-1 p.m. June 15 https://cusystem.zoom.us/j/97893687827[33] 11 a.m.-noon June 16 https://cusystem.zoom.us/j/94987769284[34]
For questions about accessibility, email system.training@cu.edu[35]. Please provide two weeks' notice for any accommodations you may need.

Preferred first name: What should we call you?[36]

Many University of Colorado faculty and staff can now select a preferred first name within the employee portal.

A preferred name differs from a legal name. It may be a nickname, professional name, anglicized name or a name that aligns with their gender identity.

Creating a process for faculty and staff to use their preferred first name contributes to the university's guiding principle [37] to "provide an outstanding, respectful, and responsive living, learning, teaching and working environment" and is an essential part of inclusion.

To update preferred first name:
Go to my.cu.edu[38]. From the CU Resources drop-down menu, select **My Info and Pay**. Click the **My Info** tile.
Click **Name** on the left-side menu. A pop-up window will populate. Enter your preferred name at **Preferred First Name**.
Select **Save**.
An employee's legal name will still appear on all legal forms such as W-2s, W-4s and paychecks, but preferred first name will now reflect within portal self-service pages as well as in the Human Capital Management (HCM) system –

the integrated suite of applications and business processes that enable the university to manage human resources from recruitment to retirement.

Reports within PeopleSoft, the Central Information Warehouse (CIW) and Master Data Management (MDM) and in downstream systems can include an employee's preferred first name without their legal first name.

Faculty and staff now have the option to update their preferred first name within the employee portal thanks to the coordinated efforts between campus Human Resources offices and Offices of Information Technology (OIT) with Employee Services[39] and University Information Services[40] (UIS) at CU system administration.

Each campus is working to integrate preferred first name information into campus-specific systems and software, and the use of preferred names across the university will continue to evolve.

CU Boulder[41] is providing faculty and staff the option to also update preferred first name in the IdentiKey Manager [42], allowing faculty and staff to have that name reflected in their Colorado.edu email, CU People Search and Microsoft Office 365.

UCCS[43] has integrated preferred-name information in 15 university systems and records, including active directory, library, rec center and more.

CU Denver and CU Anschutz will not adopt preferred first name at this time. Both campuses plan to look at this functionality in the future.

For more information or links to campus-specific information, please visit the Preferred Name project page[44].

CU Boulder to welcome students back to campus for a COVID-19-ready fall semester [45]

Virtual Town Hall answers budget, fall semester questions from campus community [46]

Coronavirus-era career advice from recession-era alumni [47]

'What we do': When crisis emerges, CU Anschutz responds[48]

End of an era: Barry announces retirement[49]

Faculty, staff recognized with student-nominated Marinus Smith Awards [50]

Crouch earns Employee of the Quarter award[51]

Links
[1] https://connections.cu.edu/spotlights/2020-class-boettcher-investigators-includes-five-university-colorado-researchers[2] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/bf-awards_feat.jpg[3] https://www.cu.edu/bfww/cu-investigators[4] https://boettcherfoundation.org/2020-boettcher-investigators/[5] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/cu-anschutz-cu-boulder-faculty-among-recipients-boettcher-covid-19-grants[6] http://boettcherfoundation.org/webb-waring-biomedical-research/[7] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/importance-innovation-cu-age-covid-19-and-beyond[8] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/cu-names-jos-padilla-vice-president-general-counsel-and-secretary-board-regents[9] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/cu-support-denver-pridefest-continues-event-goes-virtual[10] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/pridefest_2020_web-hdr.jpg[11] https://denverpride.org/[12] https://www.facebook.com/CenterOnColfax/?eid=ARD-R_wEyfoM6_SqZP9YMghvQJ0i-hsGF8jHyqIZhsJVZEqXysV7wJsx_-j9lmUAYgs6sNFE628RXYVH[13] mailto:prideparade@lgbtqcolorado.org[14] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/furlough-plans-growing-more-detailed-system-campuses[15] https://www.colorado.edu/today/2020/05/19/regents-approve-no-tuition-fees-compensation-increases-more[16] https://www.colorado.edu/chancellor/newsletter/chancellor/covid-19-update-fall-planning-ideas-and-operational-updates-including-more[17] https://communique.uccs.edu/?p=123391[18] https://www.uccs.edu/hr/furlough-and-layoff-resources[19] https://www1.ucdenver.edu/coronavirus/updates/budget-response-to-covid-19-financial-impact-may-20-2020[20] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/cu-closely-watching-progress-spacex[21] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/spacex_top.jpg[22] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/spacex_mk-lasp.jpg[23] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/spacex_01.jpg[24] https://www.spacex.com/launches/[25] https://www.colorado.edu/alumni/heritage-center/exhibitions/cu-space[26] https://www.kennedyspacecenter.com/launches-and-events[27] https://www.kennedyspacecenter.com/launches-and-events/events-calendar/2020/may/rocket-launch-commercial-crew-spacex[28] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/rock-your-profile-how-stand-out-linkedin[29] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/linkedin_01.jpg[30] https://www.cu.edu/employee-services/professional-growth-training/training-services/linkedin-learning[31] https://vimeo.com/408882398[32] https://cusystem.zoom.us/j/92286952137[33] https://cusystem.zoom.us/j/97893687827[34] https://cusystem.zoom.us/j/94987769284[35] mailto:system.training@cu.edu[36] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/preferred-first-name-what-should-we-call-you[37] https://www.cu.edu/mission-university-colorado-guiding-principles-and-vision-statement[38] https://my.cu.edu/[39] https://www.cu.edu/employee-services[40] https://www.cu.edu/uis[41] https://www.colorado.edu/hr/preferred-name[42] https://identikey.colorado.edu/[43] https://www.uccs.edu/hr/employee-name-guidance[44] https://www.cu.edu/uis/projects-initiatives/preferred-name[45] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/cu-boulder-welcome-students-back-campus-covid-19-ready-fall-semester[46] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/virtual-town-hall-answers-budget-fall-semester-questions-campus-community[47] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/coronavirus-era-career-advice-recession-era-alumni[48] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/what-we-do-when-crisis-emerges-cu-anschutz-responds[49] https://connections.cu.edu/people/end-era-barry-announces-retirement[50] https://connections.cu.edu/people/faculty-staff-recognized-student-nominated-marinus-smith-awards[51] https://connections.cu.edu/people/crouch-earns-employee-quarter-award